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**Office of the Administrative Director - Public Affairs Office - THE JUDICIARY • STATE OF HAWAII**

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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August 20, 2002  
For O'ahu Media Release

### **Judiciary Offers Free Seminar: "Can I Represent Myself or Do I Need a Lawyer?"**

The Hawai'i State Judiciary is sponsoring a free, informational session on Wednesday, August 28, 2002, in the Supreme Court courtroom at 417 South King Street on the topic, "Can I Represent Myself or Do I Need a Lawyer?" The program will begin at 12 noon and will last approximately one hour.

District Court Judge Rhonda Nishimura will give information on how a person can handle small claims and regular claims cases without legal representation. Family Court Judge R. Mark Browning will provide a general overview of the types of Family Court matters that can be handled without legal representation.

Judge Nishimura, who received her law degree from the University of Hawaii's William S. Richardson School of Law, was appointed a district court judge in June 1997. She served as the civil lead judge from 1999 to 2002 and has handled numerous small claims, landlord-tenant, and criminal and traffic cases.

Judge Browning graduated from the Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon. Before his appointment as a family court judge in June 1997, he was in private practice and served as a per diem judge.

The "[Lunch 'n' Learn the Law](#)" program is a series of free informational seminars for the general public featuring topics relating to specific areas of the law and the courts. Volunteer presenters include judges, attorneys, court officials, and other subject-matter experts.

For more information, contact the Judiciary's Public Affairs Office at (808) 539-4909.

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